(a) whether Government proposes to formulate a comprehensive food policy keeping in view the instability in production of foodgrains, pulses and sugar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when, the new food policy is likely to be formulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Government has a comprehensive policy under which Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations are carried out by the agencies designated by Government. Farmers have the option to sell their produce at MSP or in open market, as is advantageous to them. This policy ensures that farmers get remunerative prices for their produce. This also enables the Government to procure foodgrains for servicing the Targeted Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes. Maintenance of a buffer stock of foodgrains to ensure food security is also one of the important objectives of food policy. Government of India have also launched a new scheme titled National Food Security Mission to increase production and productivity of foodgrains, so that the food requirement of the population is met in adequate measure.

Agriculture products purchased by NAFED

551. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agricultural products purchased by NAFED from farmers, giving the names of the items and the rates at which purchased, item-wise and quantity-wise in each of the last three years;

(b) at what rate, NAFED sold these products and in which year; and

(c) the reasons for bestowing the import of pulses together with the quantity to be purchased and the money involved therein than to NCCF, Kendriya Bhandar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) NAFED is the Central nodal agency for procurement of oilseeds and pulses at the Minimum Support Price (MSP) fixed by the Government for each crop season under Price Support Scheme (PSS). Procurement under PSS is made only when the prices during the crop season rule below the MSP. The details of the oilseeds and pulses purchased by NAFED from farmers under PSS during last three years are given in the enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(b) NAFED has disposed of the oilseeds and pulses procured under PSS on day to day basis at the best prevailing market rates as per its prescribed sales procedure. The sale procedure of NAFED is that sales are made in the open market at the best available day to day prices after inviting offers/tenders/quotations from private firms/millers/cooperative institutions/Government institutions/State Civil Supplies Corporations etc.

(c) NAFED was allowed import of pulses. NAFED imported 2.60 lakh MT of pulses valuing approximately Rs. 491 crores. The National Consumer Cooperative Federation (NCCF) was also allowed to import 1.5 lakh tonnes of pulses (urad, tur and moong) in the current year. However, so far, NCCF has not imported any quantity of pulses.

Statement

Details of Procurement of oilseed and pulses by NAFED under PSS from 2004-05 *to* 2007-08.

SI. No.	Year	Commodity	Crop Season	MSP (Rate of purchase) (Rs. per Qtl.)	Quantity procured (in MTs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	2004-05	Gram	Rabi - 2004	1400	2,81,088
2.	2004-05	Mustard Seed	Rabi - 2004	1600	18580
3.	2004-05	Sunflower Seed	Rabi - 2004	1250	2316
4.	2004-05	Safflower Seed	Rabi - 2004	1500	63
5.	2004-05	Groundnut	Kharif-2004	1500	418
6.	2004-05	Urad	Kharif-2004	1410	529
7.	2005-06	Sunflower Seed	Rabi - 2005	1340	33
8.	2005-06	Mustard Seed	Rabi - 2005	1700	20,93,298
9.	2005-06	Toria	Rabi - 2005	1665	89
10,	2005-06	Safflower Seed	Rabi - 2005	1550	31,805
11.	2005-06	Gram	Rabi - 2005	1425	107797
12.	2005-06	Masoor	Rabi - 2005	1525	5457
13.	2005-06	Sesamum Seed	Kharif- 2005	1500	2162
14.	2005-06	Copra	Season - 2005	3570	3750
15.	2005-06	Soyabean	Kharif-2005	1010	893
16.	2005-06	Sunflower Seed	Kharif-2005	1500	3121
17.	2005-06	Cotton (NAFED agency from 17.2.2005)	Rabi - 2005	1640 to 196.0	18415
18.	2006-07	Sunflower seed	Rabi - 2006	1500	5242
19.	2005-06	Groundnut	Kharif-2005	1520	3463
20.	2006-07	Groundnut	Rabi - 2006	1520	116
21.	2006-07	Copra milling	Season - 2006	3590	8787
22.	2006-07	Mustard seed	Rabi - 2006	1715	22,05,000
23.	2006-07	Safflower seed	Rabi-2006	1565	50779
24.	2006-07	Sesame seed	Kharif-2006	1550	377

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	2006-07	Soyabean	Kharif-2006	1020	7
26.	2007-08	Ball copra	Season - 2007	3870	19,159
27.	2007-08	Milling Copra	Season 2007	3620	8103
28	2007-08	Milling Copra (AP Copra)	Season - 2007	3350 Below FAQ grade	11669
29.	2007-08	Mustard seed	Rabi - 2007	1715	22,091
30.	2007-08	Safflower seed	Rabi - 2007	1565	121
31.	2007-08	Sesame seed	Rabi - 2007	1550	93

Per-hectare production of agriculture produces

†552. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the per-hectare production of wheat, paddy, maize and other agricultural produces in India is lesser in comparison to their production in China and other developed and developing countries of the world;

(b) whether it is a fact that the effective efforts will have to be ensured to raise the rate of production per-hectare of the agricultural produces in India at par with the global rate in order to achieve more than four per cent rate of agriculture growth keeping in view the constant increase in the production of the country; and

(c) if so, what is the point of view of Government and other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Data in the following table gives the per-hectare production of wheat, paddy, maize and some important agricultural crops in India *vis-a-vis* China and some developed and developing countries in the World in 2005:

(Kg/Hectare)

Country	Wheat	Country	Paddy	Country	Maize
India	2,602	India	3,284	India	1,907
China	4,275	China	6,259	China	5,288
Developed Countries					
USA	7,437	Netherlands	8,656	Netherlands	12,200
Greece	7,136	Ireland	8,432	Belgium	11,687
Developing Countries					
Korea	6,568	Saudi Arabia	5,418	Jordan	23,333
Indonesia	4,575	Uzbekistan	4,117	Kuwait	22,492
Country	Groundnut	Country	Rapeseed & Mustard	Country	Sugarcane
India	1,179	India	1,038	India	64,752
China	3,074	China	1,791	China	63,972

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.